

John Van Brunt House
315 Grand Avenue
Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-392

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

John Van Brunt House
315 Grand Avenue
Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey

Owner: Anthony Magnotta

Date of Erection: 1834

Architect:

Builder: Peter Westervelt, Jr.

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: Two and one-half story Greek
revival structure

Materials of Construction: Foundation - sandstone

Exterior walls - frame construction, clapboards

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

This house was erected by Peter Westervelt, Jr., himself a builder, for his daughter on the old road of the stage coach from Jersey City to Albany about one-half mile from the old barge canal used by the farmers to transport coal.

John Van Brunt married Margaret Westervelt in 1830, the daughter for whom the house was built. Before Van Brunt came to Englewood, he had been in business in New York. For twenty years he was the "town superintendent of education." In 1860 he erected a general store in Englewood and served as postmaster. He served two terms as state senator, was the first township treasurer, conducted a real estate business and promoted the building of the Northern railroad of which he was later secretary and treasurer.

Van Brunt died in 1886 and left the property to his eldest son Henry D. Van Brunt who sold to John Wortendyke. Wortendyke rented to tenants. In 1916 Wortendyke sold to George Fulner from whom the present owner purchased the property in 1924.

Bibliography:

Sterling, A. W. The Book of Englewood
New York, Andrew H. Kellogg Company, 1922

Material collected by Wallace Dunlop,
Bergen County Survey Historian

Walter C. Ried

Supervising Historian

Approved:

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7/28/57